

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. In the June 29, 2007 Decision on Appeal, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences *sua sponte* rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, pursuant to their authority under 37 C.F.R. § 41.50(b). In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

The June 29, 2007 Decision on Appeal stated that “the arcuate portion of the bottom wall cannot be said to be substantially planar” as recited in previous claim 1. Applicants contend that previous claim 1 was not “misdescriptive” and fully complied with the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, but in the interest of expediting prosecution, applicants amend claim 1 to remove the phrase objected to by the Board. As claims 2-7 depend from an allowable claim, the applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable.

In view of the above remarks, the applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and passage to issuance of this application. The applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this response or the application as a whole. If there are any additional fees or refunds required, the Commissioner is directed to charge or debit Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

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Respectfully submitted,

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